

Louisiana Department of Health Informational Bulletin 21-15 August 9, 2021

General Anesthesia and Facility Reimbursement Increase for Dental Treatment Provided in a Hospital Outpatient Setting

General anesthesia for dental procedures is a necessary part of surgical services for some children and, when clinically indicated, for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In an effort to increase access to these necessary services and reduce wait lists, House Bill 1 of the 2021 regular legislative session provides funding to increase facility and general anesthesia reimbursement when dental treatment is provided in a hospital outpatient setting.

The effective date of service for the following rate increases is July 1, 2021:

General Anesthesia

Additional reimbursement of **\$20.00 per time unit** (each time unit is equal to 15 minutes).

Facility Reimbursement

Additional reimbursement of \$400.00 per procedure.

The department is working toward implementation of the above reimbursement rate increases and accompanying policy. At this time, claims will not be paid at the increased rates. When additional information is available and claims processing systems are modified to accommodate the increases, this Informational Bulletin will be updated. Providers then will be able to resubmit claims for dates of service on or after July 1, 2021 to receive the additional reimbursement.

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Kevin Guillory, Medicaid Dental Program Manager, at 225-342-7476 or kevin.guillory@la.gov.